RICHFIELD
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

October 4, 2026 at 9:30 am
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Bold = in unison *** Rise in body and/or spirit**

ENTRANCE

Prelude — Song Without Words, Op. 72, No. 47, F. Mendelssohn — Sonja Gustafson

Welcome — Rev. Nate Melcher

Gathering Hymn* — "Come, Thou Almighty King" vs. 1, 3, and 4 — UM Hymnal 61

1. **Come, thou almighty God, help us thy name to sing,**
   help us to praise! Maker all glorious,
   o'er all victorious, come and reign over us, Ancient of Days!
3. **Come, holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear**
   in this glad hour. Thou who almighty art,
   now rule in every heart, and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power!
4. **To thee, great One in Three, eternal praises be,**
   hence, evermore. Thy sovereign majesty may we in glory see,
   and to eternity love and adore!

Prayer of Confession

God who is with us, God who is for us. God who is ahead of us, God who is great. We come before you today and in these weeks ahead as your people. We confess your mission is great, and we are honored to partner with you. We confess your mission is challenging, and we stray to avoidance. Forgive us. Heal us. Reveal your wildest dreams and bring us your future by your Holy Spirit. Hear us now in our silent confessions to you…

Silent Prayer

Words of Assurance

Time with Children

Sharing the Peace

May the peace of God be with you. **And also with you.**

Please greet your neighbor here - & online - with mutual signs of peace.

Celebrating God's Mission Blessing the Prayer Shawls

Lighting Our Conflux Candles

You are invited to safely light a candle or lamp to celebrate the moments this week when your life's journey met God's heart.

Celebration Music "Look at the World" Chancel Choir
John Rutter

Celebrating Our Conflux Moments

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Scripture in Context

Scripture Reading Psalm 139 Fern Albertson
Please see insert.

The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon "God is with us." Rev. Nate Melcher
"God's Mission, God's People" Worship Series 1 of 4

Sharing Our Stories Doris Townsend

Responsive Hymn "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" UM Hymnal 117
verse 1

1. **O God, our help in ages past,**
   our hope for years to come,
   our shelter from the stormy blast,
   and our eternal home!

THANKSGIVING

Thanking God's People Leaders, Educators, and Conveners

Faith, Justice, and Joy as the Church

Sacrament of Holy Communion UM Hymnal p. 18, setting B

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, **Holy, holy, holy Lord,**
God of power and might. **God of power and might.**
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest. **Hosanna in the highest**.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, **hosanna,**
in the highest, i**n the highest.**

...as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, **Christ has died,**
Christ is risen, **Christ is risen,**
Christ will come again! **Christ will come again.**

...All honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever.

Amen, amen **Amen, amen**
amen **amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our God, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us, not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sharing Our Gifts

Your gift in-person, by mail, or online at richfieldumc.org/give supports the ministry, outreach, and operations of your church. Thank you for your extravagant generosity.

Receiving the Sacrament

There is no barrier between you and the table.
All who seek the grace of Jesus are welcome.

Music During Communion "How Great Thou Art" UM Hymnal 77

1. O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder
consider all the worlds thy hand have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Refrain:
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee;
how great thou art, how great thou art!

2. **When through the woods and forest glades I wander,**
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze; [Refrain]

3. **And when I think that God, thy Son not sparing,**
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin; [Refrain]

4. **When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation**
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art! [Refrain]

Prayer After Receiving the Sacrament

Breakthrough Prayer

Loving God of all, renew our hearts and minds.
Reveal your wildest dreams, break through to each of us.
Unite us in your vision, equip us for your work.
Transform us by your song, create our harmony.
May we embrace your future, and be your loving church. Amen.

Please join your church in praying the Breakthrough Prayer daily at 8:35.

SENDING FORTH

Sending Hymn* "God Be with You till We meet Again" UM Hymnal 673
verses 1 and 3

1. **God be with you till we meet again;**
   by God's counsels guide, uphold you,
   with God's sheep securely fold you;
   God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain:
Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus' feet;
till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.

3. **God be with you till we meet again;**
   when life's perils thick confound you,
   put God's arms unfailing round you;
   God be with you till we meet again. [Refrain]

Benediction*

...And until we meet again, **let us live in faith, justice, and joy! Amen.**

Postlude Prelude and Fugue in F Major
by J. S. Bach

Worship is over. Service begins.
Go forth as Richfield United Methodist Church.

Hello, guests! Welcome to worship as Richfield UMC. It's a big step to come to a new church and we're glad you're here. If you have questions, please ask any church member, and we hope you have a good experience.

Announcements

It's not too late to join this study
***The Book Of Joy* Online Book Study | Tuesday evenings, Sept 29-Oct 27**
7:00 pm—8:15 pm, led by Gail Johnson. *The Book of Joy* is based on conversations with the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. In this 5-week online study, we will talk about the content and how we can incorporate its message of real-life insights and practical tips for finding grounding and joy, even when life is hard. Contact Gail Johnson at gailjohnson417@gmail.com for details or to get the link for the sessions.

Your Next Faithful Steps: Lunch for New People | Today, Sun., Oct. 4, 10:45 am-12:00 pm
If you're newer to RUMC, please come for pizza and a chat. You've participated in worship. You've tried an event or book study. Now, you're ready to learn more about how you can put your faith in action through this new church.

VEAP Hygiene Product Drive | Concludes Today
Thanks to all who brought items in. You can still give online at richfieldumc.org/give/

Kids Clothing & Halloween Costume Swap
RUMC is hosting a clothing and Halloween costume swap. Here is how it works:
October 4-9 (Sunday to Friday) people are invited to drop off gently-used and clean clothing, shoes, and Halloween costumes.
Friday, October 9, volunteers will sort donations by size and prepare for Saturday.
Saturday, October 10, 10:00 am—12:00 pm, people may come and take what they need.

Pub Theology | First Sundays, 7:00 pm-8:00 pm (in-person only)
Pizza Lucé (800 W 66th St, Richfield, MN) | Fall Gatherings: **Oct. 4**, Nov. 1, Dec. 6
Pub Theology returns for drop-in discussion about faith, God, and life over a tasty beverage in a relaxed, informal atmosphere. Our church is out in the community to connect across the generations. More information: richfieldumc.org/pubtheology

Next Sunday, October 11 | Homecoming Sunday On October 11, you're encouraged to wear something that represents your school colors. Kids: wear a shirt showing off your school pride. Adults: wear something from your alma mater or favorite local school. In the fall months, many schools, colleges, and universities have a "homecoming" season. This fall let's have our own "homecoming" as a church.

Time For LIFE | Tuesday, October 13, program from 1:00 - 2:00 pm, with dessert to follow **The October program is America 250** with speaker Doug Ohman. Cost: $10.00 for program and dessert. Please RSVP by signing up in the Commons or call the church office by Sunday, October 11. Come and enjoy an historic journey with Doug as he shares stories and photos that help tell the amazing tale of America's birth.

Craft and Vendor Fair | Saturday November 7, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm
If you have crafts that you would like to donate we will start collecting them in October. If you or someone you know is interested in a table please let us know. For more information on donating items or getting a table please contact Toni Locke at 612-840-9797 or email toni@ggrreegg.com or Rhonda Olson email rhonda.s.olson@gmail.com

Ongoing and Open

1st Mondays, 1:30 pm | Women Who Read
If you are a woman who enjoys good books and thoughtful discussion, then consider joining fellow readers for Women Who Read. To join by Zoom, email Fern wfalbertson@gmail.com. The next meeting and book to discuss is:
October 5, Becoming Madame Secretary by Stephanie Dray

Tuesdays, 9:30 am | Women's Bible Study
Contact Molly Reko, mollyreko@comcast.net, to get connected.

Wednesdays, 9:00 am | Men's Bible Study
Contact Kent Johnson, kentjmn@gmail.com, to get connected.

Thursdays, 9:00 pm | Night Owl Bible Study
Online-Only by Zoom Meeting ID: 819 9039 0338/Passcode: 5835 or call: (312) 626-6799
Read and discuss the worship scripture readings with fellow night owls. No experience necessary. Come for a welcoming, drop-in experience to go deeper in your faith and make new connections. More information: richfieldumc.org/biblestudy

Saturdays, 8:30 am | Men's Support Group
Contact Kent Johnson, kentjmn@gmail.com, to get connected.

Families with Young Children are always welcome in worship!
Options to help your family have a good experience when worshiping in the Sanctuary:
The Nook - A space connected to the Sanctuary for having a quiet or wiggly moment.
Art Cart - Children can fill a bag with items in The Nook to bring with them to the pews.
Time with Children - Children of all ages are invited to experience a message just for them. Parent/guardians are welcome to join their children too.
Sunday School - **(Grades K-5)** 2nd & 4th Sundays during worship time Following the Time with Children, children may go to Sunday School or stay in the sanctuary to worship. Children meet Sunday school teachers in the Nook.
Nursing Mothers - You may nurse wherever you like. There is also a reserved Nursing Room available near the Library area.

An Everyday Prayer Life Is for Everyone
May we devote time and energy to God and neighbor and pray every day for:
People in need of a loving church home, Our church's journey toward vitality, The babies and toddlers who are cared for each weekday by CFC (Caring For Children, the early learning ministry at the church) and their families.
Our prayers are a beautiful expression of care and solidarity for each other.
We pray in celebration and gratitude.

We pray for those who seek healing: Kirsten Klosinski, Pat Noonan, Pat Robertson, Caroline Riley, Nathan, son of Dorothy Holland, Eric, nephew of Lori Claussen, Marilyn Dodge, Bob Mills, Shar Salisbury, John Darling, Jim Vetsch, Agnes Danzl, and Laurel Lien.

We pray for those who seek comfort: Marlene Davis, Phyllis Olson, Dorothy DeFreese, and Paula Milani.

We pray for those who grieve.

We pray for our neighbors and for all in the RUMC community.

Please call the church office to be included in any of the prayers of our church.

This Week's Calendar

The church office/Campus is open Tues.-Thurs., 8am-4pm.
The Church Library is open when the campus is open.

Sunday, October 04, 2026
Blessing of the Prayer Shawls
VEAP Hygiene Products Drive concludes
Children's Clothes, Shoes, and Halloween Costume Collection through October 9
9:30 am In-Person Worship Service (+Live streamed & archived)
10:45 am Lunch for New People
7:00 pm Pub Theology

Monday, October 05, 2026
1:30 pm Women Who Read

Tuesday, October 06, 2026
9:30 am Women's Bible Study

Wednesday, October 07, 2026
9:00 am Men's Bible Study

Thursday, October 08, 2026
7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
9:00 pm Night Owl Bible Study

Friday, October 09, 2026
1:00 pm Sorting for Clothing & Costume Swap

Saturday, October 10, 2026
8:30 am Men's Group
10:00-Noon Children's Clothing and Costume Swap
10:30 am Saturday Covenant Group

Sunday, October 11, 2026
Homecoming Sunday: Wear school colors
Bible Sunday
9:30 am In-Person Worship Service (+Live streamed & archived)
9:40 am Children's Sunday School
10:45 am Confirmation Class

Please let the church office know if you or someone from the church is hospitalized or immediately pre or post hospitalization. The pastoral care team is available to extend care and provide support in times of need. The Parish Minister for the week of October 4 is Jerry Schilling.

We thank those who help make this worship a ministry of grace:
Ministers: All Members of the Congregation
Staff: Rev. Nate Melcher, Kay Bergeland, Sonja Gustafson, Josh Neuenschwander, Pat Noonan, Linda Schmidt, Becca Whitaker, Victor Zupanc
Cantor today: Brad Gardner
Tech Crew today: Rev. Bill Johnson, Juan Nieves Lebrón, Bea Melcher

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Stay informed, be involved, and get invitational

Richfield UMC gathers on Dakota land. More at richfieldumc.org/land.